

Listen, thank you all. I'm thinking about a little nature walk in a couple of days. Anybody interested?

Q. How far is it? How long is it?

The President. About 4 miles. I know you're interested.

Q. I have a question for you.

The President. Yes, Patsy. Sorry.

New Year's Resolution

Q. Did you keep last year's resolution to eat less cheeseburgers?

The President. A matter of fact, it's an interesting question she asked: Did I keep last year's resolution to eat less cheeseburgers? [*Laughter*] And the answer is yes,

to the extent that I'm now comfortable in having a cheeseburger today. [*Laughter*]

I hope you all are enjoying yourself here.

The First Lady. Happy New Year, everybody.

The President. Thank you. Good luck to you. See you.

NOTE: The exchange began at 12:50 p.m. at the Coffee Station restaurant. In the exchange, the President referred to President-elect Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea; President Jiang Zemin of China; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. A reporter referred to Chairman Kim Chong-il of North Korea; and Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization.

Statement on the Kenyan Democratic Elections *December 31, 2002*

I congratulate President Mwai Kibaki on his election as the third President of the Republic of Kenya and look forward to working with him. I also congratulate the Kenyan people who on December 27th demonstrated their deep commitment to democracy and provided to the world a clear example of peaceful, democratic change. And I commend former President Moi for his leadership and vision during this crucial period of democratic transition and for his years of leadership in the region.

The elections have opened a hopeful new chapter in Kenya's history. I commend the Presidential candidates, Uhuru Kenyatta and Simeon Nyachae, for peacefully accepting the outcome of the election and for pledging to work constructively within the democratic framework of the National Assembly. The United States will work closely with Kenya's new Government to deepen the strong and enduring friendship between the United States and Kenya and to help the new Government build a future of greater freedom, peace, and prosperity for all of Kenya's citizens.

Statement Calling for Congressional Action on a Pay Increase for the Federal Judiciary *December 31, 2002*

Today I have issued an Executive order entitled "Adjustments of Certain Rates of Pay." This order implements the January

2003 pay raise for members of the uniformed services and for Federal civilian

employees under the General Schedule and certain related pay systems.

This Executive order sets forth the unadjusted pay schedule for members of the Federal judiciary. Due to section 140 of Public Law 97-92, I do not have the authority to order a pay increase for Fed-

eral judges. I hereby urge the Congress to specifically authorize a pay increase for Federal judges.

NOTE: The Executive order is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Message on the Observance of New Year's Day, 2003 *December 31, 2002*

The past year has been a time of achievement, progress, and renewed hope for the American people. As our citizens continue to demonstrate a spirit of resolve and unity, we are building a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility that strengthens our country and offers hope to those in need. To counter new threats, we are enhancing security at home, and we are part of the global coalition against terrorism that has made significant progress in opposing the forces of tyranny and oppression.

We will continue our efforts to secure America, win the war on terrorism, focus on education, promote compassion, create new jobs, and ensure the economic security of all our citizens. As we move forward into the New Year, I encourage all Ameri-

cans to give thanks to the Almighty for His many blessings, and to join with me in reaffirming our commitment to helping people around the world achieve peace and freedom.

At the dawn of this New Year, America is a land of justice, liberty, and tolerance. We will work together to build on our successes and embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a Happy New Year. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.